

# EVEN BEAUTY YIELDS TO THE ROLLER SKATING CRAZE



**W**ASHINGTON is in the throes of a fad which bids fair to outlive the bicycle fad of ten years ago. Then it was two wheels to ride on. Now, with the advent of the roller skate, it is eight wheels.

It all began with a few children skating up and down the sidewalks early last fall. Finally, high school lads and lassies tried it and found it most inviting. Then the older brothers and sisters, fascinated by the sport, took their turn at it, and now it has actually come to the point where the children of a larger growth shamelessly declare in accounting for their participation in the fad that "the family physician recommended it."

Some idea of the popularity of roller skating in Washington can be gained from the fact that during the Christmas holidays over 2,000 pairs of skates were sold. The roller skating rink at Convention Hall has a daily attendance of from 900 to 1,000 people.

There are few cities in the world that offer the possibilities that Washington does for roller skating. The miles and miles of smooth, clean asphalt afford an outdoor rink that cannot be surpassed. This fact is at last being appreciated, as is shown by the hundreds of skaters who each pleasant evening whirl, glide, and pirouette up and down the level streets or engage in fierce battles of roller-skate polo.

There was a time when ice skating was the principal winter sport of Washington's young people. But for the past few years there has not been more than several weeks of this healthful outdoor exercise. A good substitute has at last been found in the present popular diversion.

There is no question as to the benefits derived from this form of exercise. Some doctors are recommending roller skating to many of their patients. Nervous trouble of all kinds, rheumatism, and colds contracted from overheated houses are among the diseases for which the physicians advise the roller skate. And, whatever it cures, lest the streets be blockaded with skaters, roller skating is the best anti-fat remedy in the world! One hour on a pair of roller skates is worth more than all the nostrums on the market for the reduction of superfluous tissue.

For a number of years it has been the custom for the Corinthian and the Washington boat clubs to give an annual dance in Convention Hall. This year a "skate" will be held in place of the usual dance.

It will be something new to see lancers and quadrilles being danced on roller skates. There is no doubt that

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